INGREDIENTS:

4 cups plain flour

1/2 teaspoon of salt

1 ounce dry baker's yeast

1/3 cup milk lukewarm

1/3 cup water lukewarm

6 tablespoons butter at room temperature

6 tablespoons sugar

Rind of 1 large orange grated

2 large eggs

1 tablespoon brandy or rum

1 egg white

2 cups assorted candied fruit chopped in different sizes

DIRECTIONS

Sift the flour and salt into a large mixing bowl, and make a well in the middle.

In a smaller bowl, dissolve the yeast into the lukewarm milk and water. Once the yeast is completely dissolved, pour the mixture into the well of the flour.

Scrape in just enough flour from around the well to create a thick batter, sprinkle some extra flour on top, and cover with a kitchen towel. Leave the bowl in a warm place for around 15 minutes, or until the batter is doughy and spongelike.

Meanwhile, in another medium mixing bowl, use an electric beater to combine the butter and sugar until creamy.

Once the dough is appropriately spongy, add the eggs, brandy, orange rind, and a splash of water to it. Mix well, until the dough is elastic and a bit sticky.

Add the butter and sugar mixture to the dough and mix until smooth.

Shape the dough into a ball and cover in oiled plastic wrap. Keeping it in the large mixing bowl, cover it once more with a kitchen towel and leave in a warm place away from draft. As the dough proves, it will double in size. This can take anywhere between 1 to 2 hours depending on the strength of the yeast culture.

While the dough rises, grease a large baking sheet for later use.

Once the dough has doubled in size, remove the plastic wrap. Punch down the dough and place it on a lightly floured countertop or cutting board.

You need to knead the dough for two or three minutes, and then roll it into a large rectangle; roughly 2 feet by 1/2 a foot.

Next, roll the dough inwards from the long edge to create a sausage shape. Bring the ends together to create the iconic donut, and place on the baking sheet. Want to add the bean or a ceramic toy? Do it now by poking it withing the douah.

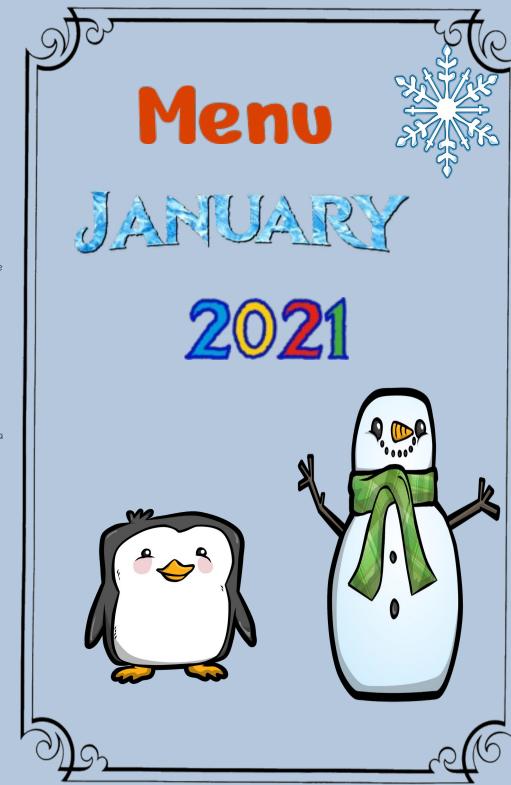
Wrap the dough once more with plastic wrap and leave in a warm place for roughly one hour to again double in size. Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F).

Once the dough has risen, lightly beat the remaining egg white and brush it across the top. Cover the cake in the assorted dried fruits, pushing gently so they do not fall off of the cake while it is baking.

Bake for 30 minutes or until golden. Cool on the rack before serving.

More classic cake recipes

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1st week



* Friday, 8th January

Creamy carrot soup Grilled turkey breast with mashed potatoes Roscón de Reyes



2nd week

* Monday, 11th January

Creamy pumpkin soup Cuba style rice Seasonal fruit

* Tuesday, 12th January

Semolina soup Galician style hake Petit suisse

* Wednesday 13th January

Creamy spinach soup Russian fillets with frites Seasonal fruit

* Thursday, 14th January

Cauliflower with *ajada* sauce Turkey breast with rice Chocolate milk

* Friday, 15th January

Spaghetti with tomato sauce Tuna pies Seasonal fruit



3rd week

* Monday, 18th January

Cauliflower with *ajada* sauce Grilled pork tenderloin with rice Seasonal fruit

* Tuesday, 19th January

Lentils soup Roasted chicken with veggies Bonbon yogurt

* Wednesday, 20th January

Spanish ratatouille Grilled salmon with steamed potatoes Seasonal fruit

* Thursday, 21st January

Brocolli with *ajada* sauce Lasagna Seasonal fruit

* Friday, 22nd January Green beans with tomato sauce Beef stew with pasta Yogurt



* Monday, 25th January

Macaroni tuna casserole Spanish tortilla with salad Peach in syrup

* Tuesday, 26th January

Pasta soup Roast cod with potatoes baker's style Seasonal fruit

* Wednesday, 27th January

Chickpeas with veggies Grilled chicken breast with frites Seasonal fruit

* Thursday, 28th January

Peas with ham Calamari rice Chocolate milk

* Friday, 28th January January

Creamy carrot soup Meatballs with mashed potyatoes Seasonal fruit